

Gaza Strip/West Bank (West Bank) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



FACT SHEET

The West Bank GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are some of the components the West Bank could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The West Bank GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 8-10, conducted in 2001. A two-stage

cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of the West Bank. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 98.7%, the student response rate was 94.8%, and the overall response rate was 93.5%. A total of 8374 students participated in the West Bank GYTS.

Prevalence

55.3% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 70.4%, Female = 41.4%)
20.0% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 31.8%, Female = 8.3%)
17.1% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 29.4%, Female = 5.9%)
10.8% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 16.4%, Female = 5.2%)
10.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

31.6% think boys and 17.5% think girls who smoke have more friends
29.6% think boys and 29.6% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

19.4% usually smoke at home
46.2% buy cigarettes in a store
89.5% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

67.8% live in homes where others smoke
62.3% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
83.2% think smoking should be banned from public places
80.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them
55.0% have one or more parents who smoke
19.2% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

59.8% want to stop smoking
66.8% tried to stop smoking during the past year
70.8% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

69.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
69.9% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
65.6% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
34.5% have an object with a cigarette brand logo

School

49.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
37.7% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke

Highlights

- 20% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 17% currently smoke cigarettes; 11% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is very high – almost 7 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke; over 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; over half have parents who smoke.
- 8 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- 6 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.